

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-07 DHA-02
OMB-01 EB-08 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /114 W
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O R 190413Z MAR 77
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2847
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BAMAKO
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY CAPETOWN
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY DAKAR
AMEMBASSY CONAKRY
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA
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AMEMBASSY LONDON
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AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
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AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 USUN 0834

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, UN, US
SUBJECT: REACTIONS TO PRESIDENT CARTER'S MARCH 17 SPEECH
AT UNITED NATIONS

1. SUMMARY: REACTIONS HERE TO PRESIDENT CARTER'S MARCH 17 SPEECH AT UN HEADQUARTERS HAVE BEEN, WITH A FEW MAINLY PREDICTABLE EXCEPTIONS, MOST FAVORABLE. THERE HAS BEEN MUCH COMMENT ON THE SINCERITY OF THE SPEECH AS AN EARNEST OF THE NEW ADMINISTRATION'S RESOLVE TO PRESS THROUGH WITH CAMPAIGN PLEDGES. THERE HAS BEEN PRAISE FOR THE SKILL WITH WHICH THE SPEECH WAS ASSEMBLED TO ADDRESS IN A RELATIVELY BRIEF SPACE, VIRTUALLY EVERY IMPORTANT UN CONCERN. PRESIDENT CARTER'S STYLE OF DELIVERY HAS BEEN APPLAUDED. SECRETARY GENERAL WALDHEIM, WHO WAS ENTHUSIASTIC OVER HIS RECEPTION IN WASHINGTON BY PRESIDENT CARTER, IS REPORTEDLY EQUALLY PLEASED OVER THE SUCCESS OF PRESIDENT CARTER'S VISIT TO THE UN.
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ACCORDING TO A UN SECRETARIAT OFFICIAL, THE SOVIETS ARE NOW CONCERNED THAT WALDHEIM, SINCE HIS REELECTION, HAS BEEN SHIFTING CLOSER TO THE WEST. END SUMMARY.

2. SECRETARIAT: THE UN PRESS SPOKESMAN SAID ON MARCH 18, THAT WALDHEIM WAS "VERY HAPPY" ABOUT PRESIDENT CARTER'S VISIT. OTHER SECRETARIAT OFFICIALS, ON THE WHOLE, ARE REPORTEDLY HIGHLY SATISFIED AS WELL WITH PRESIDENT CARTER'S SPEECH AND VISIT. ACCORDING TO A SECRETARIAT OFFICIAL, SOVIETS IN THE SECRETARIAT AND IN THE SOVIET MISSION HAVE BECOME UNEASY THAT WALDHEIM, SINCE THE LATTER'S REELECTION, HAS BEEN SHIFTING CLOSER TO THE WEST. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THERE ARE SOME NEGATIVE NOTES IN THE SECRETARIAT REGARDING PRESIDENT CARTER'S PROPOSAL THAT THE HUMAN RIGHTS DIVISION BE MOVED BACK TO NEW YORK.

3. WESTERN EUROPEAN AND OTHERS GROUP

A. UK: AMB IVOR RICHARD DESCRIBED SPEECH AS "IMPORTANT AND TRULY IN THE STYLE OF 19TH CENTURY LIBERALISM. THE

WESTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES WILL BE MOST GRATEFUL."

B. THE NETHERLANDS: AMB KAUFMANN DESCRIBED SPEECH AS "EXCELLENT, THE PORTION ON HUMAN RIGHTS WAS RIGHT ON TARGET."

C. FRG: AMB VON WECHMAR DESCRIBED ADDRESS AS "A FINE SPEECH WHICH WILL BE WELL RECEIVED BY ALL FREE PEOPLE AND THOSE NOT YET FREE."

D. ITALY: DEPUTY PERMREP CAVGLIERI THOUGHT SPEECH "MASTERFUL" IN ITS ORGANIZATION AND COMPREHENSIVE CONTENT. HE STRESSED THAT VIRTUALLY EVERY TOPIC OF IMPORTANCE TO UN WAS COVERED WITH SINCERITY AND CLARITY AND ALL THIS IN A SHORT SPACE OF TIME.

E. SWEDEN: WORKING-LEVEL OFFICERS HAD GENERAL PRAISE, BUT SAID PROPOSALS COULD HAVE BEEN MORE "SPECIFIC".

F. GREECE: WORKING-LEVEL OFFICER SAID, "WE DID NOT MAKE IT THIS TIME."

G. AUSTRALIA: WORKING-LEVEL OFFICER PRAISED SPEECH AND SAID FULL NOTE TAKEN OF PRESIDENT'S REFERENCE TO INDIAN CONFIDENTIAL

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OCEAN.

4. LATIN AMERICA

A. PANAMA: AMB ILLUECA TERMED REFERENCE TO CANAL "POSITIVE AND HELPFUL."

B. COSTA RICA: AMB SALAZAR AND HIS DELEGATION ARE GLOWING OVER PRESIDENT'S REFERENCE TO COSTA RICA'S PROPOSAL FOR HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSIONER.

C. BRAZIL: ARGENTINA'S AMB ORTIZ DE ROZAS HAS TOLD US HIS BRAZILIAN COLLEAGUE HAD ORDERS TO WALK OUT IF REFERENCE WAS MADE TO BRAZIL IN CONNECTION WITH HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS. ORTIZ SAID HE HAD SOUGHT SIMILAR INSTRUCTIONS FROM BUENOS AIRES.

D. BOLIVIA, URUGUAY AND SURINAM: WORKING-LEVEL REPRESENTATIVES GAVE SPEECH GENERALLY POSITIVE APPRAISAL.

E. BARBADOS: DEPUTY PERMREP HEPBURN INDICATED SOME RESERVATIONS, BUT DID NOT GO INTO ANY DETAIL.

5. EASTERN EUROPE

A. ROMANIA: WORKING-LEVEL OFFICER EXPRESSED HIGH PRAISE AND SAID US POSITION VIS-A-VIS UN ENHANCED.

B. EAST GERMANY: WORKING-LEVEL OFFICERS DISPLAYED COMPLETE NEGATIVISM, CLAIMING SPEECH A "DISAPPOINTMENT"; NOT ENOUGH ON SOUTHERN AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST; KOREA IGNORED; ONE MAN CANNOT TELL UN TO RETURN HUMAN RIGHTS DIVISION TO NEW YORK; "IS CARTER SAYING FREE PRESS DOES NOT EXIST IN SWITZERLAND?"

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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 USUN 0834

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

C. USSR: POLITICAL COUNSELOR TULINOV, "NOT EXACTLY THE KIND OF SPEECH I WOULD HAVE WRITTNE." OTHER WORKING-LEVEL SOVIETS CONSIDERED DELIVERY EXCELLENT, BUT NOTED DISAGREEMENT WITH "PARTS OF SPEECH". THEY SAID THEY NEEDED TO STUDY IT BEFORE THEY COULD MAKE IN-DEPTH COMMENTS.

6. AFRICA

A. SOUTH AFRICA: ALTHOUGH AMB BOTHA FELT SPEECH VERY HARD ON HIS COUNTRY, HE WAS NOT UNDULY CRITICAL HIMSELF.
B. ALGERIA: (DEPTY PERM REP)- FAVORABLE REACTION.
C. BOTSWANA: (PERMREP TLOU), OAU (ACTING OBSERVER SAM), CHAD (WORKING-LEVEL), GUINEA (PERMREP), MOROCCO (DEPUTY PERMREP), MALI (PERM REP), NIGERIA (CHARGE FROM WASHINGTON AND DEPUTY PERMREP), SENEGAL (PERMREP),CAMEROON(WORKING-LEVEL), AND ZAIRE (PERMREP), ALL HAD FAVORABLE COMMENTS.
D. EGYPT: (COUNSELOR HAGGAG)-WHILE SECTION ON MIDDLE EAST WAS RELATIVELY SHORT, HE HAD NO CRITICISM TO MAKE.
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E. TANZANIA: (WORKING-LEVEL)- ENCOURAGING THAT NEW PRESIDENT HAD COME TO UN SO EARLY TO MAKE SUCH AN EFFORT TO COOPERATE WITH MEMBER NATIONS.

7. ASIA

A. IRAN: AMB HOVEYDA - ENTHUSIASTIC.
B. JORDAN: COUNSELOR GAMMOH-FAVORABLE REACTION, ALTHOUGH PORTION ON MIDDLE EAST WAS BRIEF.
C. CHINA: POLITICAL COUNSELOR CHOU NAN SAID TIME NEEDED TO STUDY SPEECH, BUT NOTED FAVORABLY REFERENCE TO SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE.
\$. INDONESIA: MINISTER JOEWONO SAID INDONESIAN MISSION STAFF HAD APPRAISED SPEECH AND THAT IT PARTICULARLY PLEASED WITH REFERENCE TO SOUTHEAST ASIA. MISSION ALSO APPLAUDED SINCERE AND COMPREHENSIVE QUALITY OF ADDRESS.

MISSION SAW SPEECH AS EVIDENCE THAT NEW ADMINISTRATION IS DETERMINED TO PRESS THROUGH ON CAMPAIGN PROMISES. JOEWONO NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT INDONESIA HAS ITS PROBLEMS IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS, GIVEN ITS BODY OF POLITICAL PRISONERS.

E. JAPAN: COUNSELOR KATO PRAISED SPEECH, TERMING IT "A GOOD, FRANK STATEMENT." KATO ADDED THAT SOME MEMBERS OF JAPAN'S MISSION HAD EXPRESSED RESERVE ABOUT PRESIDENT CARTER'S TACTIC OF MAKING PROPOSALS WITHOUT PRELIMINARY INTERNATIONAL CONSULTATION, BUT KATO APPROVED OF THIS AS A WAY TO ENSURE DISCUSSION.

F. ROK: AMB MOON THOUGHT SPEECH SINCERE. HE DID NOT COMMENT TO US ON HUMAN RIGHTS ASPECT.
SHERER

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Message Attributes

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